

OECD GLOBAL SCIENCE FORUM  
WORKSHOP ON METHODOLOGIES AND TOOLS FOR ASSESSING SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT  
OF RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES  
*3 November 2015 - French Ministry for Research, Paris*

# A CBA MODEL FOR RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES

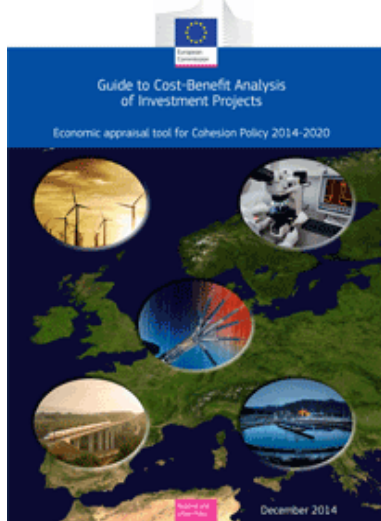
## The case of the Large Hadron Collider LHC at CERN



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# CBA FOR RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES

2

Some information on CBA international practice are drawn from the results of a survey conducted on *selected OECD countries* addressing the actual use, practice and role of CBA in ex-ante project appraisal.

## OECD, Government at glance

July 2015

<http://www.oecd.org/gov/govataglance.htm>



**Rail** (e.g. Austria, Denmark, Canada, Sweden, Netherlands).

**Urban transport** (e.g. New Zealand, Austria, Denmark, Canada, Sweden, Netherlands)

**Airports, ports and waterways** (e.g. Austria, Canada, Sweden, Netherlands, UK)



**Education** (e.g. Canada, UK)

**Culture and leisure** (e.g. New Zealand, Canada, UK)



**Water supply and wastewater** (e.g. Canada, Netherlands)

**Solid waste management** (e.g. Canada, UK)

**Other environmental projects: risk prevention and mitigation, natural asset conservation, etc.** (e.g. Canada, Sweden, UK)

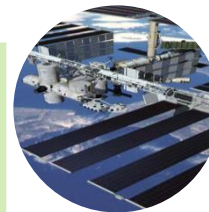


**ICT:** telecommunications, broadband, ICT applications to businesses and citizens (e.g. Canada, UK)

**Health** (e.g. Canada, Sweden)



**Energy: production, transmission and distribution** (e.g. Denmark, Canada, Sweden)



**Scientific research** (e.g. Canada, UK)

**Technological development and innovation:** science parks, technological parks, incubators, etc. (e.g. Canada, UK)

# THE CBA MODEL

$$\mathbb{E}(NPV_{RDI}) = \mathbb{E}(PV_{B_u}) + \mathbb{E}(PV_{B_n}) - \mathbb{E}(PV_{C_u})$$

$B_u$

= Technological spillovers  
+ Human capital formation  
+ Social benefits to consumers of services  
+ Knowledge creation  
+ Cultural effects

$B_n$

= Existence value  
+ Quasi option value

$C_u$

= Investments  
+ Operative costs

- The  $\mathbb{E}(NPV)$  of research infrastructures over the *time horizon*  $\mathcal{J}$  is defined as the expected difference between *benefits* and *costs* valued at shadow prices and discounted at the *social discount rate*  $r$ .
- It can be decomposed in two parts: the *expected net present value of use-benefits* and *costs*  $NPV_u$  and the *expected (non-use) social value of discovery*  $B_n$ .
- We drop the expectation operator, but *all variables are to be considered as stochastic*.
- Applications: *Large Hadron Collider* (CERN) and *National Hadrontherapy Center for Cancer Treatment* (CNAO).

# COSTS AND BENEFITS

The present value of COSTS  $PV_{C_u}$

is the sum of the:

- economic value of capital ( $K$ )
- labour cost of scientists ( $L_S$ )
- other administrative and technical staff ( $L_o$ )
- other operating costs ( $O$ )
- negative externalities if any ( $E$ ).

The present value of BENEFITS  $PV_{B_u}$

is the sum of the:

- Firms ( $T$ )
  - Employees ( $H$ )
  - Consumers/Users ( $A + S + C$ )
  - Taxpayers ( $QOV + EXV$ )
- $B_u$
- $B_n$

$$PV_{C_u} = \sum_{t=0}^T s_t \cdot (k_t + l_{st} + l_{ot} + \varepsilon_t)$$

$$PV_{B_u} = \sum_{t=0}^T s_t \cdot (T_t + H_t + A_t + S_t + C_t)$$

$$s_t = \frac{1}{(1+i)^t}$$

$i$  = discount rate

$$B_n = (QOV + EXV)$$

# BENEFITS

USE  
BENEFITS  
 $PV_{B_u}$

## FIRMS



Technological externalities ( $T_t$ )

## EMPLOYEES

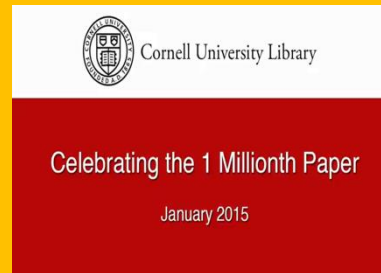


Human capital formation ( $H_t$ )

## CONSUMERS/USERS



Social benefits to consumers of services ( $A_t$ )



Knowledge output ( $S_t$ )



Cultural effects ( $C_t$ )

NON-USE  
BENEFITS  
 $B_n$

## TAXPAYERS

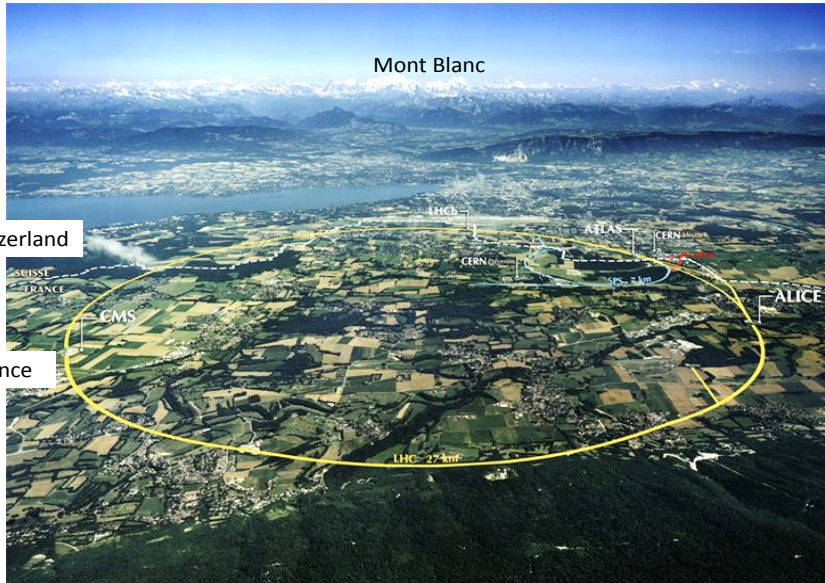


Quasi-option value ( $QOV$ )



Existence value ( $EXV$ )

# EVIDENCE FROM A CASE STUDY: THE LHC

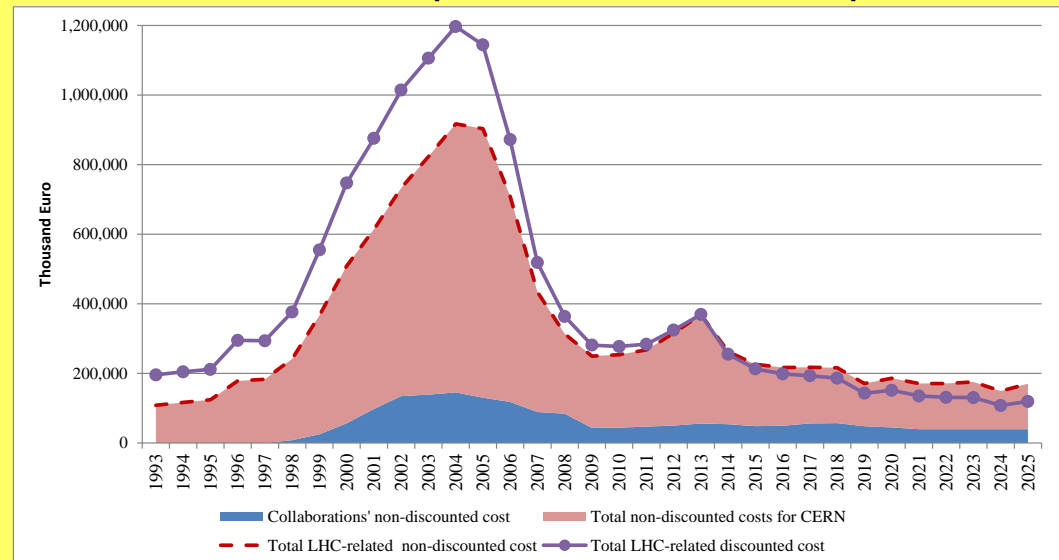


- The **Large Hadron Collider** (LHC) was built (1993-2008) by CERN.
- It is located in a **27 km-long** underground tunnel near Geneva.
- In operation since 2009, its main goal was achieved thanks to the discovery of the **Higgs boson** in 2013.

## PARAMETERS FOR THE CBA

TIME HORIZON	33 years: 1993 - 2025
UNIT OF ANALYSIS	the LHC and its experimental facilities
SOCIAL DISCOUNT RATE	3% in real terms (adopted by the <a href="#">EC CBA Guide, 2014</a> )
SHADOW PRICES	Proxied by marginal WTP or marginal costs
COUNTERFACTUAL	Business as usual scenario
QUASI-OPTION VALUE	assumed 0
NEGATIVE EXTERNALITIES	assumed 0

## TOTAL DISCOUNTED AND NON-DISCOUNTED LHC COSTS COVERED BY CERN AND COLLABORATIONS, INCLUDING IN-KIND, BY YEAR (1993-2025; THOUSAND EURO)







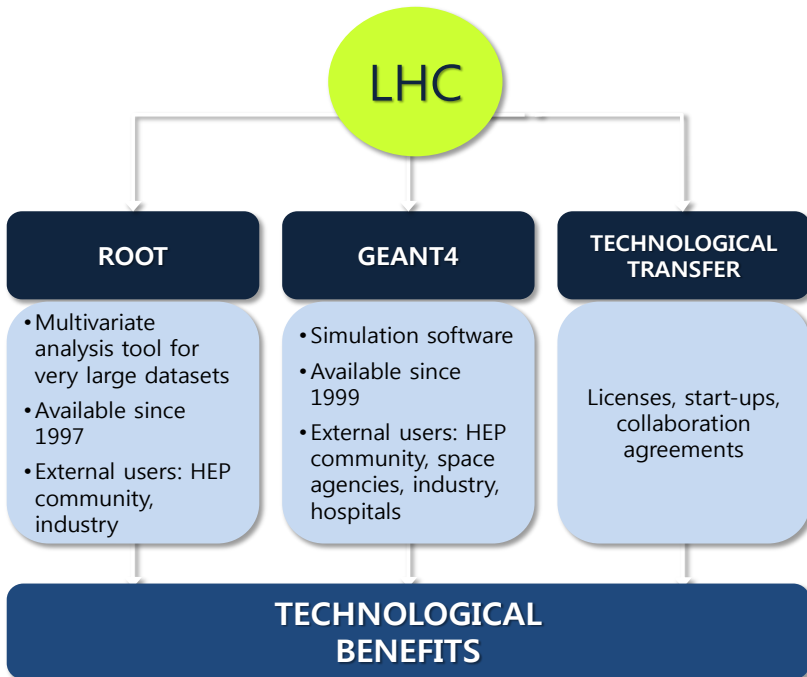
# TECHNOLOGICAL EXTERNALITIES

The present value of technological spillovers ( $T_t$ ) is given by:

- the *discounted incremental social profits*  $\Pi_{jt}$  generated by *companies* ( $j$ ) of the RI's supply chain which have benefitted from a learning effect;
- and *other externalities*.

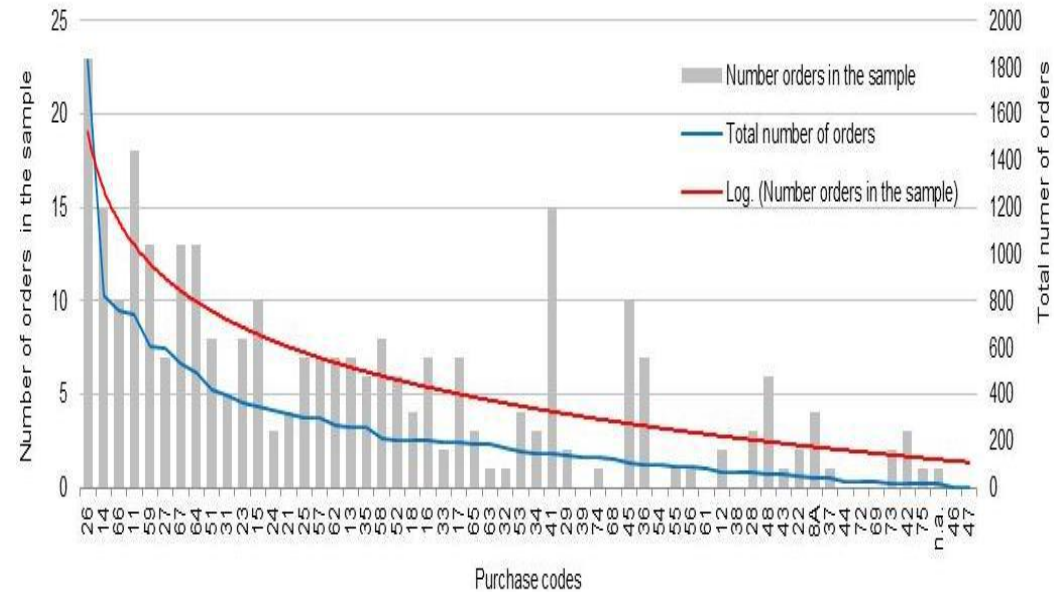
$$T = \sum_{j=1}^J \sum_{t=0}^T s_t \cdot \Pi_{jt}$$

## Benefits to software users



## Benefits to suppliers

Sample of 300 orders by purchase code  
Compared with all LHC orders



# HUMAN CAPITAL FORMATION

**Human capital formation benefits ( $H$ )** are valued as *increased earnings* ( $I$ ) gained by RI's students and *former employees* ( $z$ ), since the *moment* ( $\varphi$ ) they leave the project, against *counterfactual scenario*.

$$H = \sum_{z=1}^z \sum_{t=\varphi}^T s_t \cdot I_{zt}$$

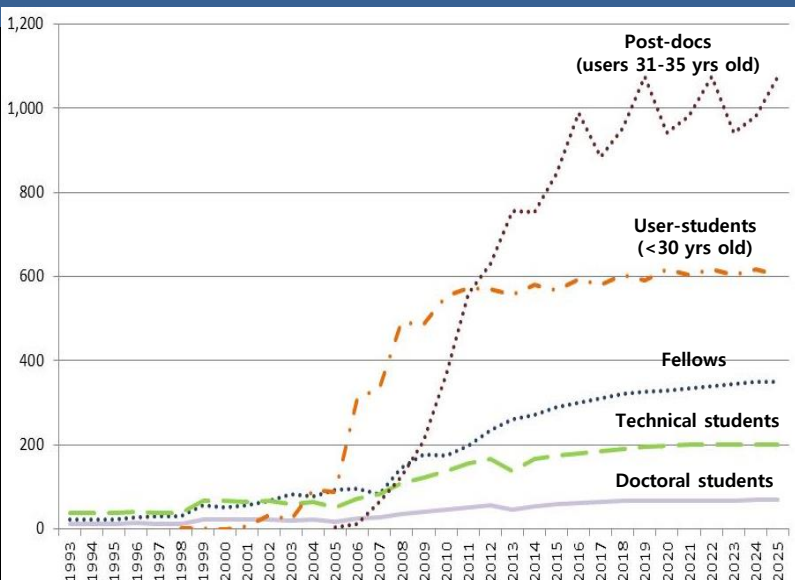


# HUMAN CAPITAL FORMATION

## Estimate for LHC



TYPES AND NUMBER OF PEOPLE BENEFITTING FROM TRAINING



TYPES AND QUANTITIES OF PEOPLE BENEFITTING FROM TRAINING

Variable	Number over the 1993-2025 period	Average staying at CERN
CERN fellows working on LHC	5,873	2 years
CERN technical students working on LHC	3,940	1 year
CERN doctoral students working on LHC	1,332	3 years
User-students working on LHC	14,225	3 years
Post-doc researchers (users) working on LHC	11,301	2 years
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>36,671</b>	

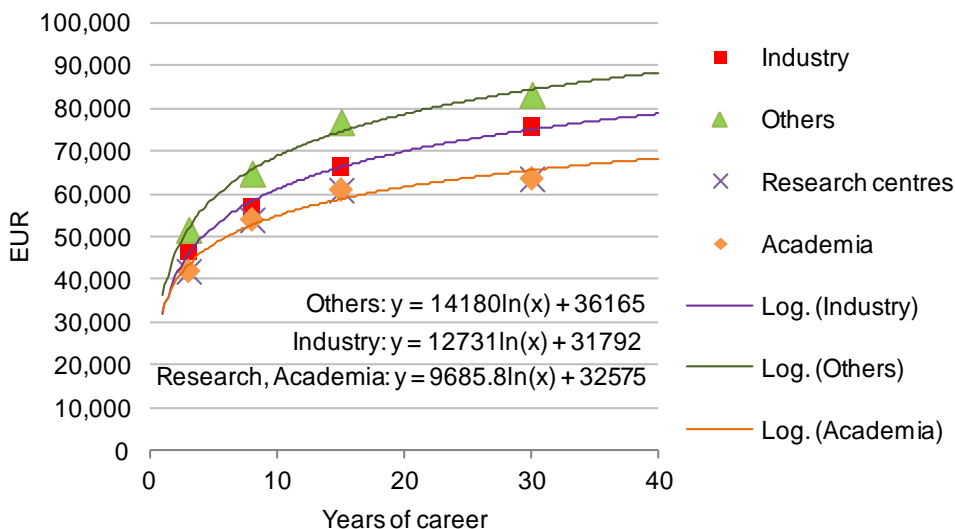
Sources: - CERN personnel statistics; - Interviews to CERN staff

Main assumptions: - Future number of beneficiaries; - Number of user-students and post-docs among users (assumed based on their age group); - Incoming number of user-students and post docs

ASSUMED DISTRIBUTION OF FORMER LHC STUDENTS BY PROFESSIONAL SECTOR

Sector	CERN fellows	CERN technical students	CERN doctoral students	User-students and post-docs
Industry	20%	45%	20%	20%
Others (computing, finance, public administration, ...)	20%	45%	20%	20%
Research centres	30%	5%	30%	30%
Academia	30%	5%	30%	30%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

ESTIMATION OF FUTURE AVERAGE SALARIES



DETERMINING THE RETURN TO SALARY DUE TO LHC TRAINING

Sector	SALARY EFFECT <sup>(1)</sup>		SALARY BONUS FOR JOB EFFECT <sup>(2)</sup>
	CERN fellows, doctoral students, user students, post-docs	CERN technical students	
Research centres	9.3%		2.5%
Academia			
Industry			
Others (computing, financial, ...)			

(1) Survey to 192 former LHC students (out of a total survey to 385 students and former students); declared salary impact of the experience at LHC on their current salary  
 (2) Own assumption based on survey results and Payscale salaries  
**Main source:**  
 Findings from the survey to LHC current and former students

**Main assumptions:**

- Same economic return regardless of the professional sector and type of student
- Same return over the entire work career (40 yrs)

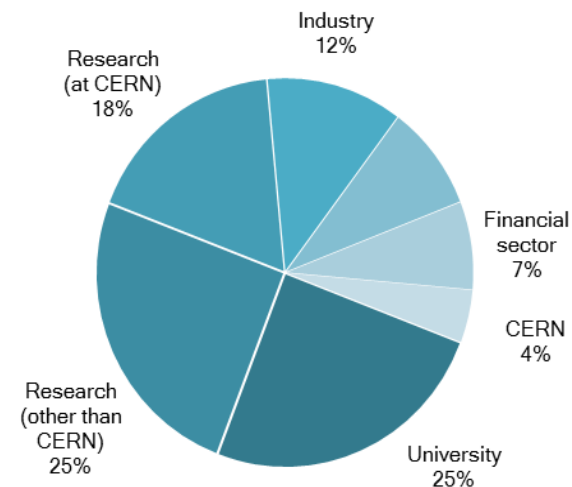
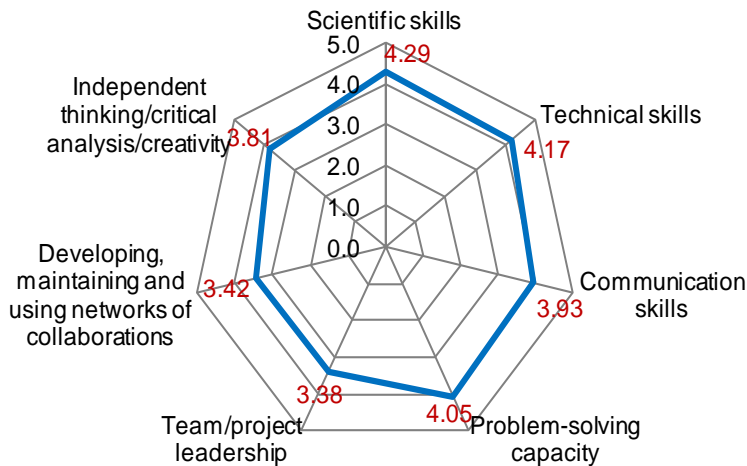
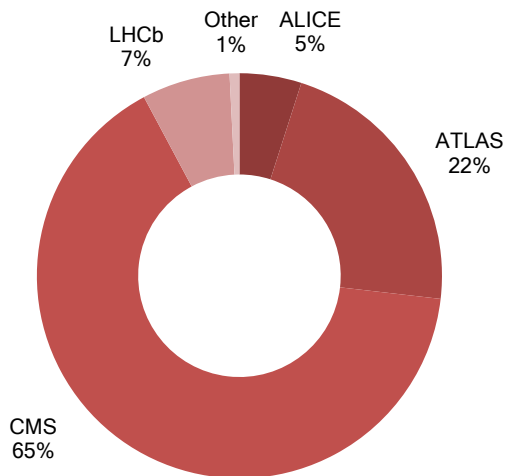
# HUMAN CAPITAL FORMATION

## Estimate for LHC

SHARE OF RESPONDENTS BY EXPERIMENT

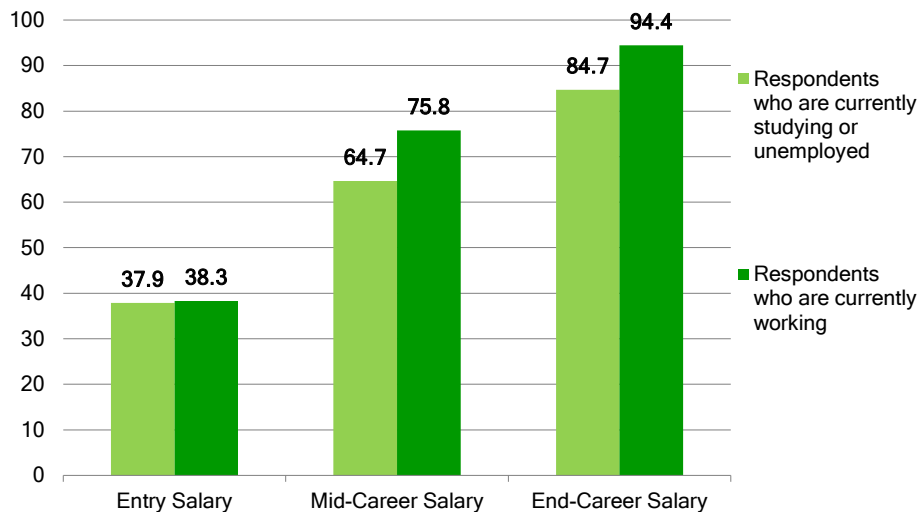
SKILLS IMPROVED THANKS TO THE LHC EXPERIENCE. AVERAGE JUDGEMENT

AN OVERVIEW OF CURRENT EMPLOYMENT SECTOR. SHARE OF RESPONDENTS



AVERAGE SALARY EVOLUTION: A COMPARISON BETWEEN THE TWO GROUPS OF RESPONDENTS (THOUSAND EUR)

THE IMPACT OF LHC EXPERIENCE ON SALARY (%)



# KNOWLEDGE OUTPUT

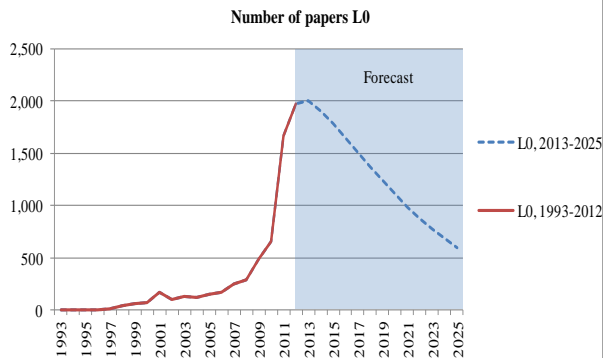
The social value of knowledge output is measured by:

- the **sum of the present value of papers signed** by RI's scientists ( $P_{0t}$ ) and the **value of subsequent flows** of papers produced by other scientists that use or elaborate of the RI's scientists' results
- **divided by the number of references** they contain ( $\frac{P_{it}}{k_{it}}$ , with  $i = 1, \dots, n$ ) and the **value of citations each paper receives**, as a proxy of the social recognition that the scientific community acknowledges to the paper ( $Q_{it}$  with  $i = 0, \dots, n$ )

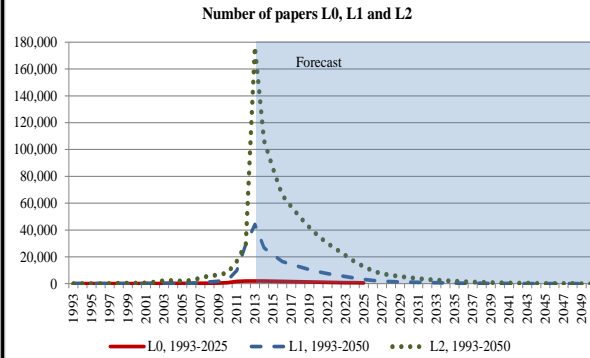
$$S = \sum_{t=0}^T s_t \cdot P_{0t} + \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{t=1}^T \frac{s_t \cdot P_{it}}{k_{it}} + \sum_{i=0}^n \sum_{t=1}^T s_t \cdot Q_{it}$$

## Estimate for LHC

### PAPERS PRODUCED BY LHC USERS (L0)



### PAPERS PRODUCED BY NON-LHC USERS (L1 & L2)



### VALUATION

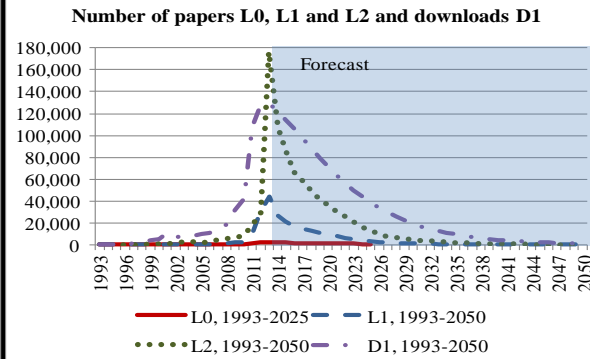
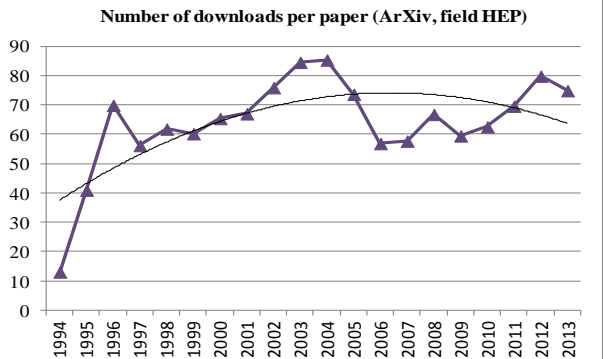
#### Unit economic value of papers L1

	Value	Source
Number of references in paper L1	35	Own assumption, based on an analysis of 41 research journals by Abt and Garfield (2002)
Share of time dedicated to research	65%	Own assumption. The remainder is for teaching and other non scientific activities
Number of paper (published and non) per year	3.5	Own assumption. It represents the number of papers to which a scientist gives a real contribution
Average annual gross salary	59,289 €	Own elaboration based on PayScale data. It is the average salary for a scientists working in research centres and academia in the USA
Unit production cost per paper L1	315 € = (59,289 € * 65%/3.5/35)	Own estimation, based on the approach suggested by Florio and Sirtori (2014)

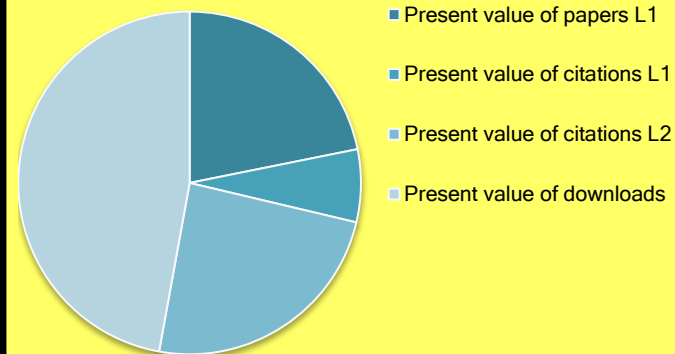
#### Unit economic value of citations and downloads

	Value	Source
Working hours per year	1,800 = 225 working days * 8 hours/day	Own assumption
Average hourly gross salary	33 € = 59,289/1,800	Own estimation
Hours per citation	3	Own assumption
Hours per download	3	Own assumption
Value of one citation L1 and L2	99 € = 33 € * 3	Own estimation, based on Florio and Sirtori (2014)
Value of one L0 paper downloaded but non cited	99 € = 33 € * 3	Own estimation, based on Florio and Sirtori (2014)

### DOWNLOADS OF LHC PAPERS (D1)

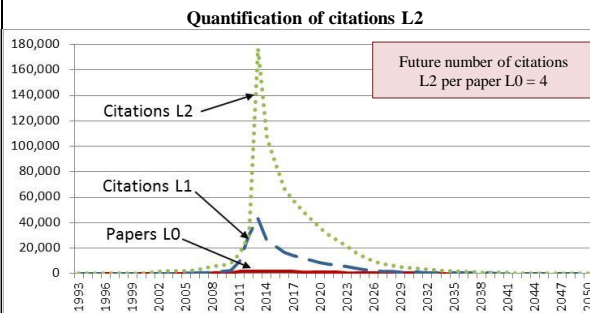
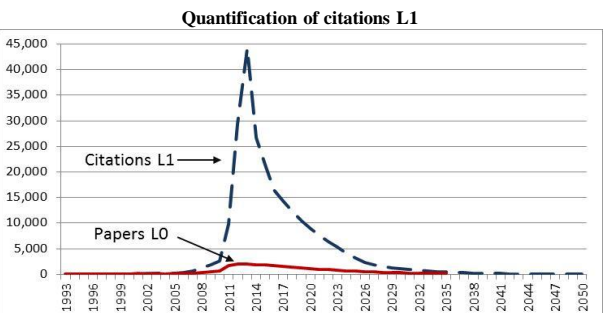


## OUR RESULTS



Except L0

### TRACKING THE KNOWLEDGE OUTPUTS



# CULTURAL EFFECTS

Outreach activities carried out by RI produce **cultural effects** on the general public ( $g$ ), which can be valued by estimating the **willingness to pay**  $W_{gt}$  **of the general public** for such activities.

$$C = \sum_{g=1}^G \sum_{t=1}^T S_t \cdot W_{gt}$$

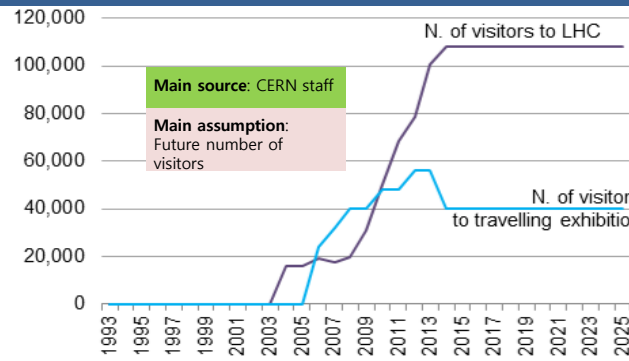
# CULTURAL EFFECTS

## Estimate for LHC

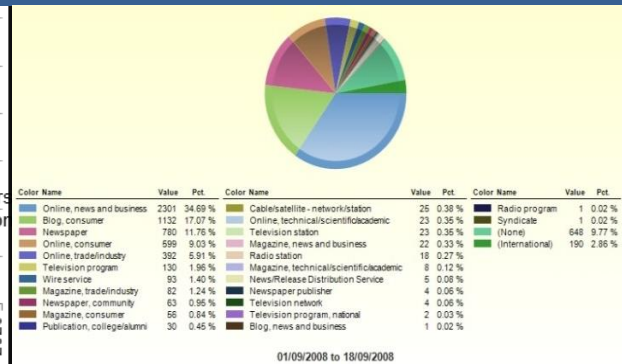
### TRAVEL ZONES CONSIDERED



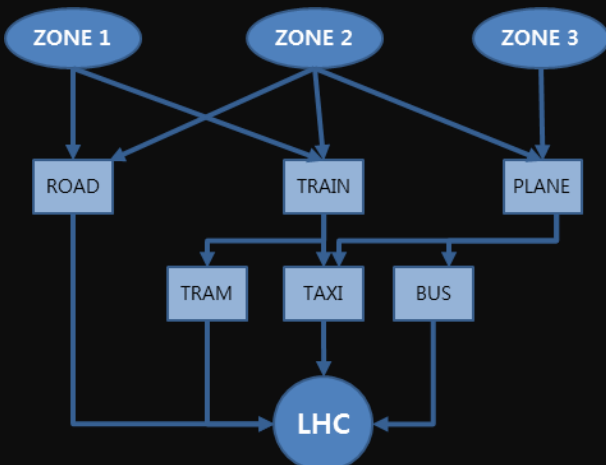
### BENEFITS TO PERSONAL VISITORS: QUANTIFICATION OF VISITORS



### MASS MEDIA BENEFITS: NEWS BY MEDIA CHART



### VALUATION THROUGH THE TRAVEL COST METHOD



**Main assumption:**

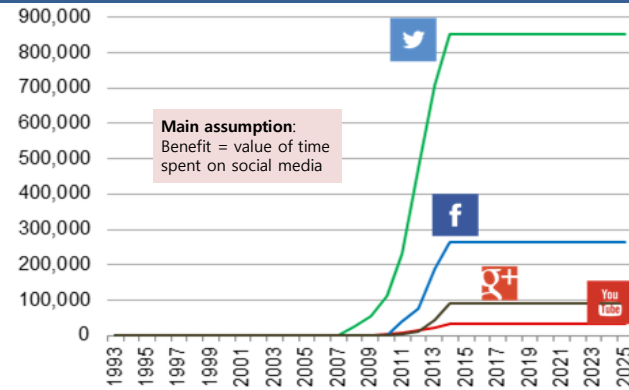
- % of visitors by mode of transport
- Travel cost by zone

**Source:**

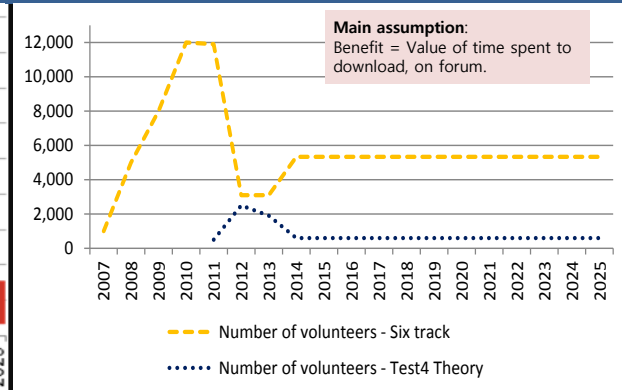
- HEATCO values of travel time by modes of transport

Origin zone	Radius distance from CERN	Share of visitors	Source/ Assumption
Zone 1	500 km	24%	CERN
Zone 2	500-1,500 km	50%	Own assumption
Zone 3	Beyond 1,500 km	26%	Own assumption

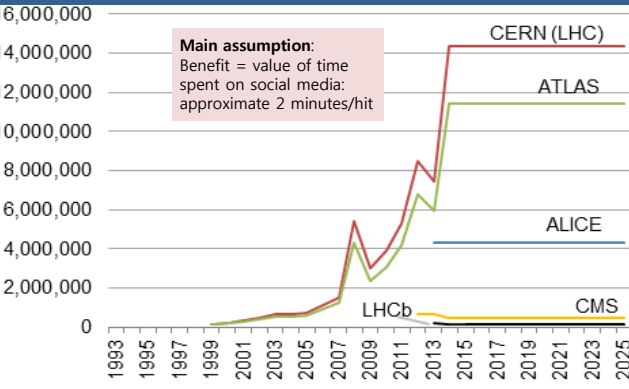
### BENEFIT FOR SOCIAL MEDIA USERS



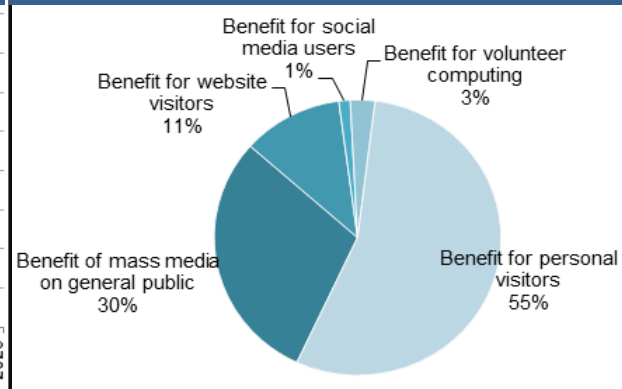
### BENEFIT FOR VOLUNTEER COMPUTING



### BENEFIT FOR WEBSITE VISITORS



### SHARE OF BENEFITS BY TYPE OF OUTREACH ACTIVITY







# THE NON-USE BENEFITS

$B_n$  captures two types of benefits related to the social value of discovery:  
the **quasi-option value** (*QOV*) and the **existence value** (*EXV*):

where

- *QOV* is intrinsically **uncertain** and therefore **not measurable**, simply assumed to be **non-negative** and then **skipped**,
- *EXV*, on the other hand, can be proxied by **stated or revealed willingness** to pay for scientific research, and/or through **benefit transfer**, borrowing ideas from CBA of the environment.

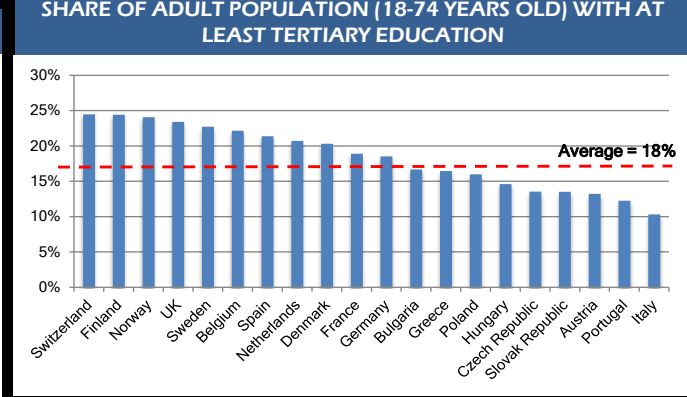
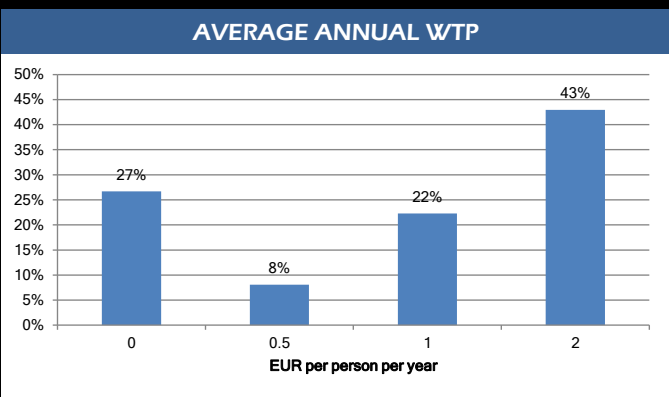
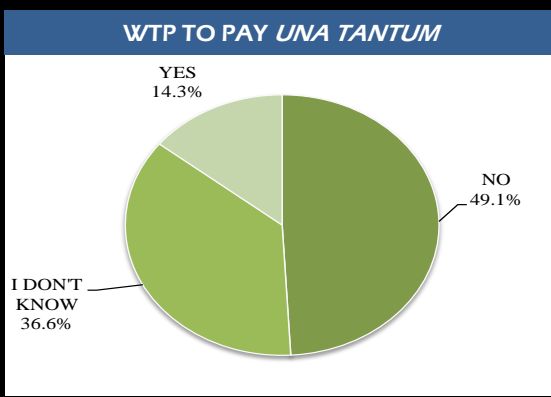
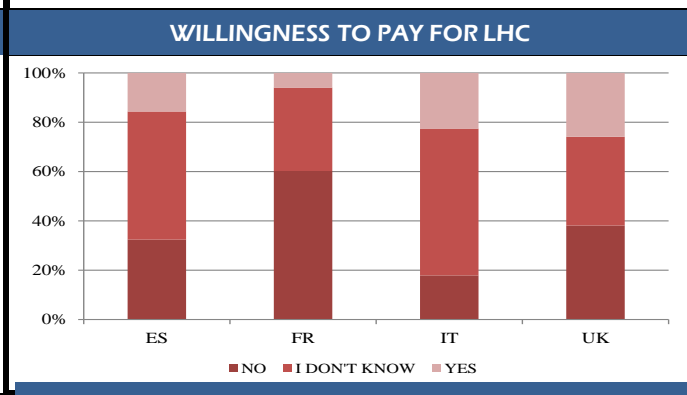
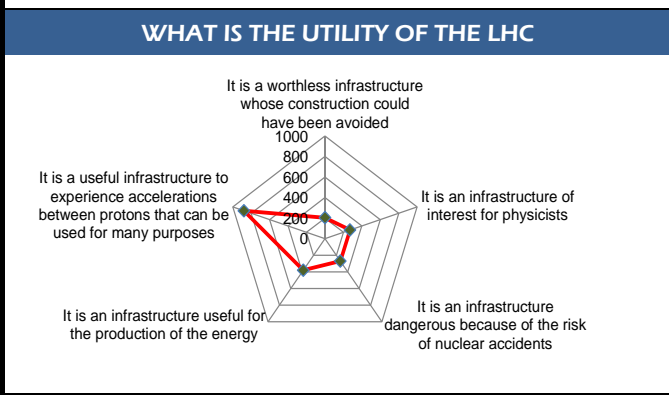
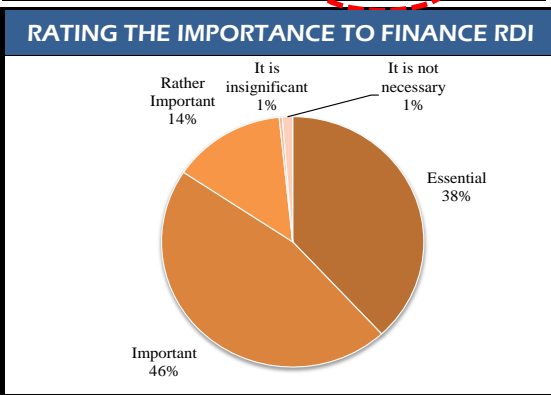
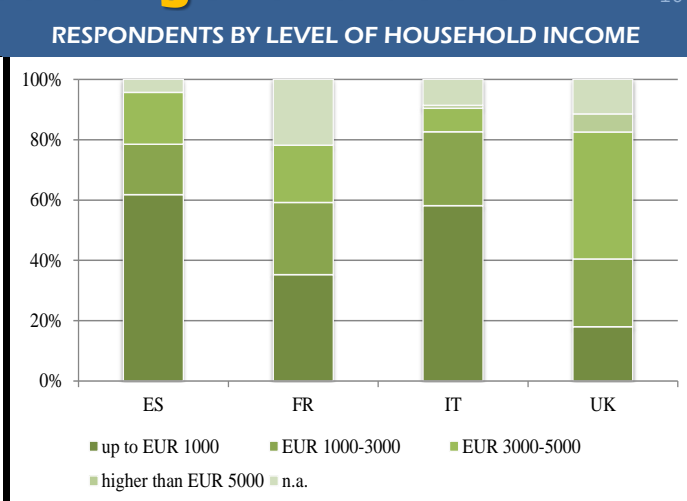
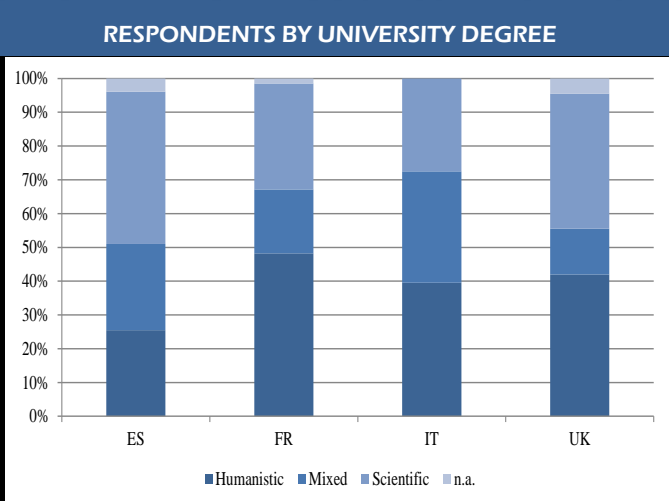
$$B_n = QOV + EXV$$



# THE NON-USE BENEFITS

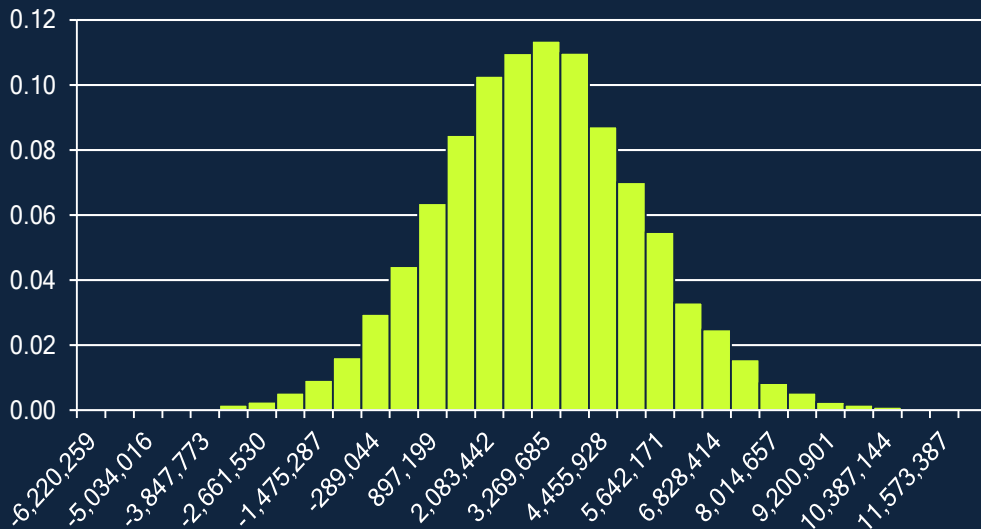
## Estimate for LHC: Results from a contingent valuation

GENDER	Number
Female	581
Male	446
Total	1027
COUNTRY	Number
Italy	422
Spain	204
France	201
UK	200
Total	1027
YEARS	Number
19-25 years	875
26-30 years	95
31-35 years	34
Over 35 years	20
n.a.	3
Total	1027

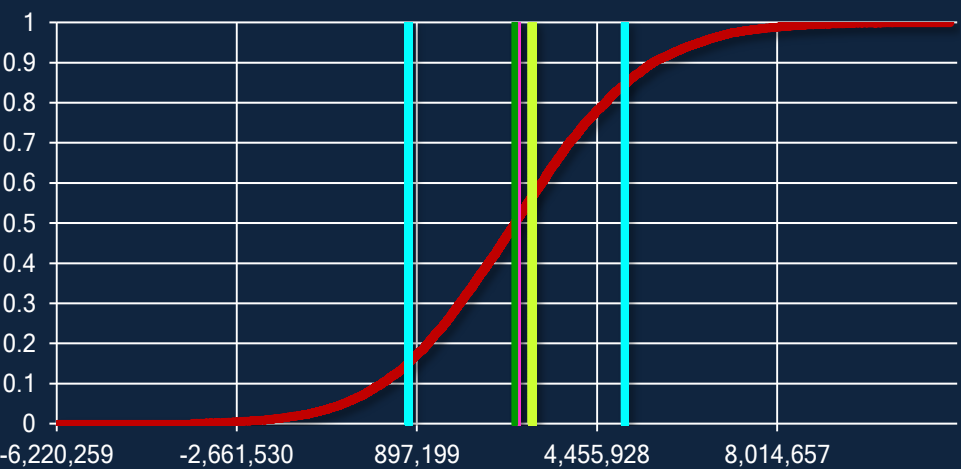


# CONCLUSIONS

PROBABILITY DENSITY FUNCTION



CUMULATIVE DISTRIBUTION FUNCTION



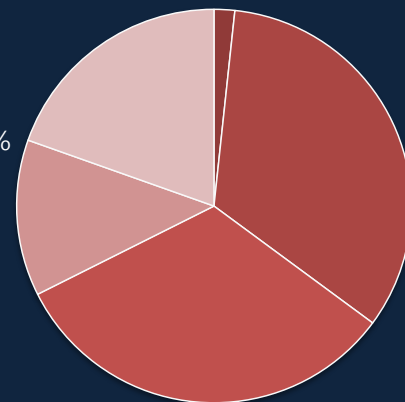
— Cumulated probability    — CBA reference value    — Mean  
— Median    — Std. Dev. from mean

## PROBABILITY DISTRIBUTION OF THE LHC NET PRESENT VALUE

Own estimate of the Present Value PDF resulting from a Monte Carlo simulation (10,000 random extractions)

### TOTAL MEASURED BENEFITS OF LHC

- Scientific publications 2%
- Human capital formation 33%
- Technological spillovers 32%
- Cultural effects 13%
- Existence value 20%



### ESTIMATED PARAMETERS OF DISTRIBUTION

Mean	2,855,528
Median	2,825,860
Standard deviation	2,134,763
Minimum	-6,220,259
Maximun	11,573,387

### ESTIMATED PROBABILITIES

Pr. ENPV ≤ 0

0.086

# THANK YOU

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To know more

<http://www.eiburs.unimi.it/>

Florio, M., Forte, S. and Sirtori, E. (2015), *Cost-Benefit Analysis of the Large Hadron Collider to 2025 and Beyond*, arXiv:1507.05638v1 [physics.soc-ph] 20 Jul 2015.

available at

<http://arxiv.org/pdf/1507.05638v1.pdf>

Pancotti, C. et al (2015), *The Socio-Economic Impact of the National Hadrontherapy Centre for Cancer Treatment (CNAO): Applying a CBA Analytical Framework*, DEMM Working Paper n. 2015-05.

available at

[http://wp.demm.unimi.it/tl\\_files/wp/2015/DEMM-2015\\_05wp.pdf](http://wp.demm.unimi.it/tl_files/wp/2015/DEMM-2015_05wp.pdf)

Florio, M., Pancotti, C., Sirtori, E. and Vignetti, S. (2015), *Exploring Cost-Benefit Analysis of Research, Development and Innovation Infrastructures: An Evaluation Framework*, discussion paper.

to be presented at

***EIBURS-UNIMI Workshop, hosted by DG Research  
Brussels, November 13, 2015***



Special Issue on:

***The social impact of Research Infrastructures at the frontiers of science and technology***

**Guest editors:** Del Bo, C., Florio, M. and Forte, S.

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